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God's Mercy Line

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God's Mercy Line

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=belmveaTvW4>



Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

PSALM 119:105

As I turned left onto the highway, the freshly painted yellow lines made it unmistakably clear which lane was mine.

These familiar pavement markings—solid lines, dashes, arrows—do far more than divide asphalt. They quietly direct, caution, and protect. Whether reminding us to stay in our lane or warning us not to pass, they are constant guides on the journey.

It's said that the first painted centerline appeared in 1911 in Wayne County, Michigan, thanks to a milk wagon that leaked its white contents down the middle of the road—giving one official an inspired idea. By 1917, California, Michigan, and Oregon followed suit. Yet it took until the 1970s for national regulations to be fully adopted. Strange, isn't it? Something so essential took decades to become a standard.

Much like those road markings, God has given us clear guidance for our spiritual journey. Through Scripture, He outlines a path for life—a path marked by righteousness, truth, and love. Yet walking this path isn't always easy. We drift. We fail. We forget.

The Bible reminds us that we all fall short (Romans 3:23), but it also assures us that God's mercy is never far.

Psalm 119:105 declares, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” And in John 14:15, Jesus says, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” These verses are like the spiritual centerlines that help us navigate safely through life’s curves.

But veering outside of God's path comes with warning signs. Romans 6:23 tells us that the wages of sin is death, but God—rich in mercy—offers the free gift of eternal life in Christ. Isaiah 59:2 cautions us that sin separates us from God, a serious consequence of crossing spiritual lines.

On a recent drive to Boise, I caught myself drifting across the centerline more than once. Jolted by the rumble of the tires, I’d quickly correct my course. It made me wonder—how many times have I unknowingly crossed over God’s mercy line, only to be gently pulled back by His grace?

Just like those yellow stripes on the road, God's mercy lines are meant to guide us—not restrict us. They are evidence of His love, offering protection, clarity, and ultimately, a way home.

The prayer of The Jesus Country Music Group says it best: “Lord, take my hand and guide my soul. Walk me home, Lord, through the night. Be my lantern—be my light. When the path is rough and I can’t see—walk me home, Lord, and stay with me.”

May we each stay alert, stay in our lane, and never take for granted the grace that meets us every time we stray.

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